

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 14, lines 21 and 22, please delete the paragraph and insert the following in its place:

B1
Fig. 4 shows sequences of the utilized regions i.e. A', B and C: HCV (SEQ ID NO: 6) and Human (SEQ ID NO: 7).

On page 14, lines 23-28, please delete the paragraphs and insert the following in their place:

B2
Figs. 5 - 7 show sequences for primers and probes: MPF1 (SEQ ID NO: 8), MPF1+1 (SEQ ID NO: 9), MPF2 (SEQ ID NO: 10), HCV_1A (SEQ ID NO: 11), MPR1_rev&compl (SEQ ID NO: 12), MPR2_rev & compl (SEQ ID NO: 13), HCVMCR02_rev&compl (SEQ ID NO: 14), Foreward primer CK10/Reverse primer CK20 (SEQ ID NOs: 15 and 16), Foreward primer CK11/Reverse primer CK20 (SEQ ID NOs: 17 and 18), Foreward primer CK10-1/Reverse primer CK20-1 (SEQ ID NOs: 19 and 20), Foreward primer CK11-1 (SEQ ID NO: 21), Foreward primer CK 10-2/Reverse primer CK20-2 (SEQ ID NOs: 22 and 23), Foreward primer CK11-2 (SEQ ID NO: 24), Reverse primer CK21 (SEQ ID NO: 25), Foreward primer CK10-1/Reverse Primer CK21-1 (SEQ ID NOs: 26 and 27), Foreward primer CK11-1 (SEQ ID NO: 28), Reverse primer CK21-2 (SEQ ID NO: 29), Reverse primer CK21-3 (SEQ ID NO: 30), Foreward primer CK12/Reverse primer CK22 (SEQ ID NOs: 31 and 32), Foreward primer CK12-1/Reverse primer CK22-1 (SEQ ID NOs: 33 and 34), Reverse primer CK22-2 (SEQ ID NO: 35), Reverse Primer CK22-3 (SEQ ID NO: 36), Foreward primer CK12-2/Reverse primer CK22-4 (SEQ ID NOs: 37 and 38), Reverse primer CK22-5 (SEQ ID NO: 39), Reverse primer CK23 (SEQ ID NO: 40), Reverse primer CK23-1 (SEQ ID NO: 41), Reverse primer CK23-2 (SEQ ID NO: 42), Reverse primer CK23-3 (SEQ ID NO: 43), Reverse primer CK24 (SEQ ID NO: 44), Reverse primer CK24-1 (SEQ ID NO: 45), Reverse primer CK24-2 (SEQ ID NO: 46), Reverse primer CK24-3 (SEQ ID NO: 47), HCV (SEQ ID NO: 48) and HGBV-B (SEQ ID NO: 49).

On page 15, lines 1 -3, please delete the paragraph and insert the following in its place:

B3
Fig. 8 shows a particularly short section of the HCV genome with the aid of which short amplicons can be produced. HCV (SEQ ID NO: 51), BVDV (SEQ ID NO: 52), primer GH3 (SEQ ID NO: 53), primer GH4 (SEQ ID NO: 54), and probe GHp2 (SEQ ID NO: 55).

On page 50, lines 10 - 13, please delete the paragraph and insert the following in its place.

Two different ruthenium-labelled probes were used for the hybridization:

B4
PNA-probe: Ru-(Ser)₂-TCCAGGACCC-Ser-Gly (SEQ ID NO: 50)

DNA-probe: 5'-Ru-CTCCAGGACCCC-3', (SEQ ID NO: 5)